

Message Text

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ORIGIN AGR-08

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 021135

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS EAGR TGEN US

SUBJECT: FUMIGANT IN U.S. CORN ABOARD S/T OVERSEAS JOYCE AND

BRADFORD ISLAND AT ANCHOR IN ODESSA

1. SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE REQUESTS EMBASSY PASS FOLLOWING TO
MINFORTRADE PATOLICHEV AND MINPROCUREMENT ZOLOTUKHIM.

2. YOUR ASSISTANCE IS URGENTLY REQUESTED IN RESOLVING A PROBLEM
CONCERNING THE ACCEPTABILITY OF TWO CARGOS OF U.S. CORN TO THE
USSR WHICH WAS TREATED WITH A GRAIN FUMIGANT CALLED 80/20. THE
UNLOADING OF U.S. CORN WHICH IS ABOARD THE S/T OVERSEAS JOYCE AND
BRADFORD ISLAND AT ANCHOR IN ODESSA IS BEING DELAYED BECAUSE THE
GRAIN WAS TREATED WITH THIS FUMIGANT.

3. THE FUMIGANT 80/20 IS THE MOST COMMONLY USED GRAIN FUMIGANT
IN THE U.S. THIS FUMIGANT IS 80 PERCENT CARGON-TETRACHLORIDE AND
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20 PERCENT CARBON-DISULFIDE. IT IS APPLIED IN LIQUID FORM AFTER

GRAIN IS LOADED IN A SHIP. THE FUMIGANT VOLATILIZES AND PASSES
DOWNWARD THROUGH THE GRAIN. NORMALLY, IT DISSIPATES WHILE THE
GRAIN IS IN TRANSIT. THE RATE OF VOLATILIZATION AND DISSIPATION DEPE
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UPON AMBIENT TEMPERATURE (THE TEMPERATURE IN THE HOLD). IF ODOR
OF CARBON-TETRACHLORIDE IS PRESENT AT UNLOADING, IT IS UNSAFE TO
ENTER THE HOLD AND TIME SHOULD BE ALLOWED FOR THE GAS TO LEAVE THE
HOLDNATURALLY OR BY FORCED VENTILATION.

4. THE SHIPPER, COOK INDUSTRIES, ASSURES THAT THE FUMIGANT WAS
APPLIED IN ACCORDANCE WITH RECOMMENDED PROCEDURES. COOK IS WILLING
TO PROVIDE A REPRESENTATIVE TO SUPERVISE UNLOADING. AS THE COOK
REPRESENTATIVE IS PROBABLY AWARE, THE GERMAN FIRM DRAGER MANUFACTURES

A MULTI-GAS-DETECTOR WHICH IS COMMONLY USED FOR DETERMINING THE
PRESENCE OF CARBON-TETRACHLORIDE IN HOLDS OF SHIPS. IF THE COOK
REPRESENTATIVE'S PRESENCE IS DESIRED AT UNLOADING, HE COULD BRING
THIS INSTRUMENT WITH HIM TO ODESSA.

5. THE FUMIGANT 80/20 HAS NOT BEEN FOUND TO LEAVE FARMFUL RESIDU
IN GRAIN OR GRAIN PRODUCTS WHEN PROPERLY APPLIED IN CORRECT DOSAGE
RATE. THE U.S. FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION DOES NOT RPT NOT HAVE
PUBLISHED TOLERANCES FOR 80/20 RESIDUE. HOWEVER, USDA'S AGRICULTURAL

RESEARCH SERVICE HAS NOT REPORTED ANY INSTANCES OF HARMFUL EFFECTS
CASED BY 80/20 RESIDUE.

6. COOK INDUSTRIES HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH EXPORT K
EB PRESIDENT
MR. VICTOR PERSHIN ABOUT THIS PROBLEM. KISSINGER

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